

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 216173  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-07 PM-05 IO-13 ERDA-05  
L-03 /059 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON/MW  
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON  
T/D - DR. NYE (DRAFT)  
OES/NET/IN - MR. HOYLE (DRAFT)  
PM/NPP - MR. OPLINGER (DRAFT)  
IO/SCT - MS. JILLSON (DRAFT)  
ERDA - MR. UPSHAW (SUBSTANCE)  
-----043260 100632Z /13  
R 091708Z SEP 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 216173

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, PK, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-ORIGIN FUEL FOR PINSTECH RESEARCH REACTOR

1. PAKISTAN EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY HUSAIN CALLED ON PAB COUNTRY DIRECTOR SEPTEMBER 1 TO INQUIRE ABOUT USG POSITION ON GRANTING APPROVAL FOR TRANSFER OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM (HEU) FUEL ELEMENTS FOR PINSTECH RESEARCH REACTOR.

2. HUSAIN RECALLED THAT UNDER 1974 IAEA/PAKISTAN/U.S. AGREEMENT, THE U.S. UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE HEU TO FRANCE WHERE IT WOULD BE MANUFACTURED INTO FUEL RODS FOR PINSTECH. U.S. APPROVAL HAD BEEN OBTAINED FOR THE TRANSFER OF THESE FUEL RODS, BUT THE APPROVAL HAD EXPIRED BEFORE ALL THE FUEL ELEMENTS WERE TRANSFERRED. THEREFORE, A NEW APPLICATION HAD BEEN MADE TO ERDA FOR APPROVAL OF THE FINAL TRANSFERS.  
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(FYI: PRIOR U.S. APPROVAL MUST BE OBTAINED FOR TRANSFERS OF U.S.-ORIGIN NUCLEAR MATERIAL IN SUCH CASES.0

3. MR. HUSAIN STATED THAT HE HAD INQUIRED LAST WEEK OF ERDA ON THE STATUS OF THE LATEST APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFERS. AN ERDA OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THAT THE U.S. WAS REVIEWING ITS OVERALL NUCLEAR POLICY WITH RESPECT TO

PAKISTAN AND WOULD CONSIDER THE REQUEST AFTER THE REVIEW WAS COMPLETED. HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN THIS WOULD BE.

4. MR. HUSAIN ASKED IF THIS POSITION WAS THE POSITION OF THE USG AND COUNTRY DIRECTOR REPLIED THAT THIS WAS INDEED THE CASE. HUSAIN ASKED IF THIS CASE WAS RELATED TO THE REPROCESSING ISSUE AND THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR REPLIED THAT THE NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH PAKISTAN NEEDED TO BE LOOKED AT AS A WHOLE AND WE WERE REVIEWING OUR POSITION IN ALL RESPECTS.

5. HUSAIN NOTED THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS WERE CONTINUING TO DISCUSS THE REPROCESSING ISSUE AND HE UNDERSTOOD THAT FURTHER TALKS MAY BE HELD AFTER THE ELECTIONS. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT WE WERE DISCUSSING A BROAD RANGE OF NUCLEAR MATTERS WITH INDIA BUT THAT IN THE MEANTIME WE HAD SHIPPED FUEL FOR TARAPUR. COUNTRY DIRECTOR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF THE FACT THAT PAKISTAN WAS WILLING TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS BUT NOTED THAT THE TWO SITUATIONS WERE VERY DIFFERENT.

6. IF QUERIED IN ISLAMABAD, EMBASSY SHOULD TAKE SIMILAR LINE. FYI: PENDING RESOLUTION OF REPROCESSING ISSUE, WE ARE DEFERRING ACTION ON A NUMBER OF MINOR CASES INVOLVING NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH PAKISTAN. THE ONLY EXCEPTION HAS BEEN TO INVITE PAKISTAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION (INFCE), A PROGRAM

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DESIGNED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO INVESTIGATE ALTERNATIVES TO CONVENTIONAL REPROCESSING. END FYI.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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